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**Here, turkey turkey...**
Visits from the locals on page 3

**Senior Side thoughts**
A guide to aging on page 5

**Creature features**
Nature in your backyard on page 7

**Puddle party**
Diving into spring comes with it's fair share of puddles. /EMILY STONEHOUSE staff

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# QAMAR: *Moon*

HELLO. I'M Qamar. My name is Arabic, and I love it. When people try to shorten it to *Cam*, or anything else, I say I prefer *Qamar*. It means *moon*. I also really like the moon. It's so clear up here, I can almost touch it.

My sister, brother and I were born just west of Toronto. My dad was my actual age when he emigrated with his parents from Pakistan. Our family usually speaks Urdu at home since my grandmother lives with us. My grandfather just passed away. I miss him very much. He and my father started taking me to mosque, but the nearest one is now almost two hours away, so we mostly pray at home.

**DEB REED**
*Wind in the Attic*

We moved north about three years ago because my father was offered a better job. He works in IT, and he's doing what he loves. I like when he explains his projects, but I don't have a clue what he's talking about!

I do pay attention when we talk about ice fishing! We go out on the lake with Norman and his dad. *Nornie* and I are in the same class and LEGO club. Although he's ahead of me in Grade 6, we're only ten months apart in age. He actually asks people to use his nickname. His grandfather invented it.

We bought tackle, folding stools and a small pop-up shelter, but I prefer jigging with sticks and a string. I like staring into the drilled hole. So far I've caught two trout, and these became dinner. My grandmother marinated them in garlic, coriander and chilli, grilled them with butter, then served naan and salad. Nornie's family operates a sugar bush, so one thing they do with fish is cure it in their smokehouse after brining it with salt and maple syrup.

I haven't caught a fish since spring. I told Miss Fields that I love hearing red-winged blackbirds and those weird noises when a lake starts melting. Last time we jigged, it was a foggy Sunday, a *temperature inversion*, and I was freezing. But I was smiling under my scarf because I felt so great. There I was with my father and our best friends. Four guys, fresh air, beautiful sounds, and living in the moment!

I'm looking forward to another split class. Some lessons are fine for everyone, but math and my independent assignments stay in the Ontario Grade 5 curriculum. I'm especially interested in Canadian geography and climate. I want to become a meteorologist. Maybe even a TV weather reporter. I like their interactive maps, and the technology around forecasting. And I think I have the personality to be part of a friendly news team!

Miss Fields likes my plan and can picture me doing this. She says *kids should be seen and heard*. Last week we debated about how we're impacting the environment. At first we were shy. But when I started listing a few of my thoughts, everybody joined in. Kids have amazing ideas!

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# Getting the full view

I WAS driving home the other day and took a side road in order to drop something to a neighbour. That road took me past the wind turbines close to my home, but the trees blocked most of the view, so from the road I was on, only part of the wind turbine was visible.

From my view it was just one blade swinging out from behind the tree line in a rhythmic motion, like a sword repeatedly coming down on an invisible target. I reflected that if you were only ever to see this view you would have no idea that the blade in view was attached to a complete turbine.

**TERESA JORDAN**
*Community Living Contemplations*

I think it is like that with a lot of things, there are plenty of things blocking our view or not known to us and the vantage point we all have is limited. I read a book in the winter that said the beginning of all relationships is a conversation where as much dialogue as possible is set out to ensure a deep understanding of the viewpoint of each participant.

It was described like a pond between two people that had to be filled with their respective thoughts first, then the art of decision making or problem solving could be like water being drawn from that well. That the knowledge, line of sight, view and unique perspectives need to be fully explored. I know from other roads that the swinging sword is part of a wind turbine, I know that the wind turbine is part of a row of turbines that the community fought hard not to have installed. It is important to share what we know, ask questions of what others see and try to get the full view, that is where the power is created.

CountyLife
**The following inserts are being distributed with County Life this week:**

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# When turkeys call

**STEVE GALEA**

*Beyond 35*

TURKEY SEASON will be here in no time, so I think it would be useful to discuss how to use turkey calls advantageously.

Ideally, you want to be able to make sounds that fool a tom turkey into thinking that you are an amorous hen who is looking for love. For some of us, this is a hard mindset to achieve.

With that in mind, here are a few things to consider before you start calling. First off, never forget that the tom turkey is making overt and, frankly, indecent proposals that essentially translate into "Your place or mine?"

This sounds like "Gobble! Gobble! Gobble!" to the untrained ear.

Here's my advice.

Don't throw yourself at that gobbler. If you do, he will never respect you. More importantly, you will never respect yourself.

In fact, I think it's best to take things really slow. Get to know each other a bit. Build a solid and trusting relationship before you even consider shooting him.

That's why my first call, which sounds like "Er … err … er" translates to, "Wow! Does your mother know you talk to females like that?"

Oh sure, you will lose a few gobblers by being so direct. But, trust me, they are not the type of gobblers you want to take home.

The good ones will understand the error of their ways and try to apologize. Those are the ones you give a second chance.

They'll typically reply with, "Sorry. You're right. Can we start over? My name is Tom. What's yours?"

This sounds like "Gobble! Gobble! Gobble!" to the untrained ear.

That's when I'd advise letting out a little hen purr with your slate call that says, "My name is Jenny. Have you lived here long?"

This will generally lead to a little small talk and a bit of flirtation.

Somewhere along the line, the gobbler in question will probably see your decoy and say, "You know, I feel like we've made a real connection here. I'm glad we got to know each other a little better …"

This sounds like "Gobble! Gobble! Gobble!" to the untrained ear.

This is when I play hard to get, by not calling back.

This silent treatment makes even the most assured male turkey try a little harder.

Which will lead it to approaching closer and saying, "Did I say something wrong? Am I moving too fast? I didn't mean to offend you."

This sounds like "Gobble! Gobble! Gobble!" to the untrained ear.

At this point, my call will translate to "No. It's just, I've had my heart broken before. I'm not sure I'm ready for another relationship."

This will cause the gobbler to move in closer and say, "I understand. Why don't we just hang out for a while?" Which again, sounds like "Gobble! Gobble! Gobble!" to the untrained ear.

By this point in the hunt, the gobbler has fallen hard. And I won't lie. He's breaking down my walls too. It even occurs to me that, in another time and another place, it could have worked out.

But that's when he ruins it by fanning out his tail and pirouetting. And I realize he's full of himself and just trying to put the moves on me.

I see his true colours. I understand that he doesn't really care about me. He just wants to put another notch in his roosting tree.

That's the ideal time to shoot.

Sounds kind of rough, I know. But, hopefully, he doesn't take it personally.

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## *Writing on the Senior Side*

# *Please don't judge*

**GAIL STELTER**

*County Life* Contributor

A senior is at the hospital for a routine procedure. The nurse beckons her with the words, "Please come sit here, dearie." The senior smiles and sits as requested, but her thoughts are not smiling. When did we become "dearies" to the young ones?

I was lying on a stretcher, ready for cataract surgery. A nurse tucked some of my loose hair under the head cap and commented and fussed over me about my "pretty white hair". I know it was meant with kindness and compassion, but it was not particularly welcomed. It seemed patronizing, almost ageist. I didn't say anything because I know that I am with people of goodwill who are trying to comfort me. I appreciate them, and I certainly would never hurt their feelings, but I still wish they would not judge me according to their stereotype of a little old lady.

Hot, sunny and swimming in February, the Florida pool was warm. A few of the regulars were chatting about being Baby Boomers.

I said, "I am a Baby Boomer."

A voice responds. "You? You're a Baby Boomer?'

"Yes, I was born in 1949."

He turns to his wife and says, loud enough for me and everyone else around to hear, "Boy, she must have had a hard life."

Don't you think it's quite amazing that someone can sum up my whole life just by looking at me, or do you think it is sad that we live in a world where how we look identifies our life lived? So, today, as I live on the senior side, I say on behalf of everyone like me, "Don't judge us by our wrinkles."

I was having a chat with an acquaintance. At one point, she looked at me and said something to the effect that I was much older than her. She commented that she was 75. I was only one year older, but she was right, although I was not much older, I do look much older. Please don't judge my age by my wrinkles. Instead, ask me how old I am. It's quite ironic to think we spend years not easily revealing our age until someone thinks we are even older. So readers, just so you know, I am now a happy 77-year-old.

One of my role models who also had wrinkles was Hazel McCallion (1921 to 2023), mayor of Mississauga for 36 years, who continued to be active in her community after retirement until her death. If you read about Hazel, you will see her wonderful accomplishments and especially those as a senior sider. There is nary a mention of her wrinkles. There is a mention of her nickname: Hurricane Hazel. I want a nickname like that.

Another is TV personality Keith Morrison on the show Dateline. I love that he has not been replaced by a younger wrinkle-free person. There is hope that our society will think of ability and talent before wrinkles. There are many more such role models. As a result, I wistfully believe the presence of wrinkles is becoming a non-issue.

Wrinkles are caused by several factors, as indicated in research from the Mayo Clinic: www.mayoclinic.org

I have listed them here and added my comments/reflections.

- Age. With aging, the skin naturally becomes less elastic and drier, with less fat and collagen in the deeper layers. This process results in the lines and creases typical of wrinkling. It also causes loose, saggy skin.

This is good, I choose aging, I choose life with wrinkles and saggy skin.

- Ultraviolet (UV) radiation. Ultraviolet radiation from sunlight and other sources speeds the skin's aging process, especially in people who tend to sunburn easily. It breaks down the elastin fibers and collagen in skin. Without these supportive connective tissues, the skin loses strength and flexibility.
- Guilty as charged. I am fair-skinned. I never wore sunblock as a child, a teen or a young adult. I wonder how many other boomers are with me on this. My mom always encouraged wearing a hat in the sun. I didn't listen. I spent several years as a playground leader and one as a camp counsellor, out in the sun all day. I am glad the younger generations know better. I am glad they can see my wrinkles and remember to put on sunscreen. I am a what-not-to-do role model. Of course, I wear sunscreen now. One bout of Basel cell cancer on my face was enough to finally get the sunscreen message embedded in my brain.
- Smoking and pollution. Smoking and air pollutants speed the aging process.

Oh no, guilty again. I smoked from the age of 17 to 40. So I guess not having smoked for 37 years doesn't make up for those beautiful teen years when smoking seemed cool.

- Repeated facial expressions. Facial movements and expressions lead to fine lines and wrinkles. For example, every time you squint, smile and frown, tiny grooves form beneath the surface of the skin. As skin ages, it loses its flexibility and can no longer spring back. These grooves then become features of the face.

This one makes me laugh. I have a repertoire of facial expressions. Not sure why mine have resulted in wrinkles, and so many others my age have not.

Family history. The genes you inherit play a big part in the look and feel of your skin.

I love this. It's genetic, so there! … Okay, I know it's just one factor and that it's unrealistic to blame all my wrinkles on genetics. It's the age-old discussion of nature vs nurture. Nevertheless, it is a nice escape and makes me smile.

Each one of us is unique. I am thankful for my uniqueness and for the gift of my senior side life. If this gift comes with ageism and wrinkles, so be it. I will indeed live and love fully, and I will keep those smile wrinkles coming. Please don't judge me by my wrinkles, but if you do, it is what it is, and I think the times, they are a-changing.

## Nature in your backyard

Curious mink by Tammy Nash

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Send your letters to the editor to emily@haliburtonpress.com. Letters must be signed and include a phone number.

County Life is produced by The Haliburton County Echo and Minden Times, and published by White Pine Media Corp. Audited circulation: 6,372 July 1 - Dec 31, 2015

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## A blue truck

LAST WEEK, it was dark.

Day or night, noon or midnight, it was dark.

Grey clouds hung low in the sky, while all forms of precipitation fell, keeping the groundhog on his toes.

And I felt sad.

Not for any particular reason. But because of the weight of the world, the grey clouds hanging low in my soul; a mirror to the outside world, reflected back.

**EMILY STONEHOUSE**
*County Life Editor*

People are mean. People are scared. People are hurting.

We have individuals in positions of power who run their campaigns on cruelty. Statistics and facts are spewed out of reliable sources; claims and allegations set in stone, only to be turned over and buried deeper into the pits of reality, the light source dimming with each day.

What next, I thought. How do we shake the wiry tethers holding us to truth, when kindness is crushed, bravery bowled over.

In an effort to push through the grey clouds that fogged my mind, I went out for breakfast with my family. We visited the local Tim Hortons, which was busy and buzzing on an early rainy morning.

I sat quietly, while my son traipsed and tromped around, his clunky boots two sizes too big, a little yellow farm tucked under his arm. He had packed the barn with only the necessities for a morning out: a little rusty school bus, a plastic frog, a rubber ducky with rabbit ears.

And while he cooed and played in his own little world, bits and bites of cheesy croissant flaking into his lap, I felt content. Present. Warmed from the inside out.

His world isn't clouded these days. He has everything he needs, right in front of him. We should all take a chapter from his book, I reminded myself, as I shook away the fog and took a deep breath, preparing for the day ahead; a dedication to a shifted mindset on the forefront.

But as we were getting up to leave, an older gentleman, sitting at the table next to us, left first. We gave him a head nod as he headed out the door, and as we bundled up our yellow farm and tightened my son's too big boots, the man came back.

With him, he carried a small Matchbox car, tucked in its package. Streaks of blue wisping past the tiny doors. He handed the package to my son. "I collect these every time I see them," he said.

My son gingerly took the package from the man, held it carefully in his tiny little fingers. He looked up at him as though he had won a lottery. He's just starting with words; the vowels and consonants bouncing around his gums; clunky in practice like his too big boots.

'Tank you' he said, with a genuine gratitude and warmth to his words.

He spent the entire car ride home holding that little blue truck; his fingers tracing the curves of the wheels, the edges of the roof. Joy filled his features, awe filled his heart.

There are good people in this world. Kindness, bravery, love. People who put others above themselves, who see the golden aura of kindness a mile away, who offer an umbrella, when the skies are grey.

To the man who gave my son that blue truck, on a rainy day at Tim Hortons, thank you.

And to the other people in this world, who are committed to clearing the clouds, you make each day a little bit better, just by being here.

## Top 10 ways we'll know our town animals have evolved

I THINK we can all agree that we are seeing more animals in our towns. It seems to me that if this keeps up, they will eventually have to evolve. If they do, here are the top 10 subtle signs we might all see:

**STEVE GALEA**
Humour Columnist

1. Deer, turkeys, and squirrels carrying brief cases and/or water bottles.
2. Flocks of turkeys occupying prime tables at the regular breakfast spots.
3. Passing deer nodding and greeting you with, "How are you now?"
4. Rather than scratching for food, local turkeys will use excavators.
5. Deer will have their own "deer camp."
6. A lot more Facebook comments calling for more bird feeders.
7. Will proudly tell you about how long their families have lived here.
8. They will open up their own feed store.
9. Deer crossings will have cross walks.
10. More squirrel arborists with tiny chainsaws.

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## Gift

Morning Sky molting feathers of Snow, floating
through Air, soft as pussy willows budding on their branches,
winter gasping, grasping at one more day, unable to muffle the whispers of spring's unfurling,
April Sky sloughing off remnants of the relentless season, as snowflakes land on grass,
where robins peck at the ground, ignoring the crow that struts past them, searching and foraging, too,
undeterred by this spring Snow, melting into the bark of trees, veiling the debris of old leaves, that shroud the earth,
seeds squirming beneath it, preparing to burst through the darkness into the world of Air and light,
my layers of winter armour muffling my flesh on this April day, as I walk along the side of the road,
inhaling Wind and blinking snowflakes out of my eyes, that drift through Air, not a pair collide,
blotting the hills in the distance, smearing the silhouettes of trees arching over the road ahead of me,
their branches reaching for trees on the other side, a blur of white fur, frozen in the middle of the road,
my eyes squinting, uncertain what they see, maybe the snowflakes are tricking me, the creature's tail swishing in the Wind,
white as the Snow that's falling, the squirrel stands on its hind legs, its front paws clasped to its chest, in frozen prayer,
my eyes awestruck by what they see, I stare at the white squirrel as it stares at me, slowing my Breath, halting my steps,
so I don't frighten it away, the space between us blurred by snowflakes freefalling from morning Sky,
I can't stop staring, how rare to see a white squirrel, grey ones streaking past it across the road, clambering up the trunks of trees,
but there, the white squirrel remains, squatting on its hind legs in the middle of the road, frozen as Air on this April morning,
looking as out of place as snowflakes tumbling down from a spring Sky, my eyes unable to look away,
wondering whether the squirrel is frightened or lost, longing to be found, its paws rooted to the road,
as if it doesn't know that it can bound up the trunk of a tree or scurry onto a patch of grass to forage for a feast,
the blare of a car horn jolts it out of its frozen repose, and it flees up the trunk of a tree, freezing again, halfway along its trunk,
its eyes peeking out onto the road, its white tail swishing in the Wind, as snowflakes drift through Air all around us,
I can't stop staring at the squirrel that remains splayed on the trunk of the tree, its paws clawing the bark
where other squirrels have clambered before it, wondering whether I'll ever see it again, never having seen it before,
glad that I decided to go Outside, rather than cursing the weather from the window, grateful for the gift this April morning,
swathed in Snow, has strewn across my path, as I force my feet, rooted to the road, to start walking back,
as snowflakes meander through Air, turning around, again and again, my eyes searching for the white squirrel
that's no longer there, its fur melting into the feathers of Snow,
floating down from a spring Sky.

*Sylvie Kalenda*

# Nature in your backyard

*County Life* welcomes photo submissions depicting life in the Highlands. Email emily@ haliburtonpress.com. Please ensure images are high resolution - 200 dpi, 10 inches at its longest edge.

Red winged black bird by Jill Moulton

Owl by Tammy NAsh

Diane the deer by Tammy Nash

Sparrow by Jill Moulton

Richie Falls by Linda Tattler

Feisty little squirrel by Tammy Nash

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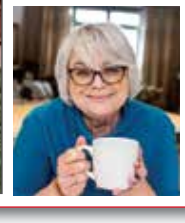

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Sales Representative
**705-854-0103**
debra.lambe@gmail.com

**HALIBURTON**
191 Highland St., Suite 201
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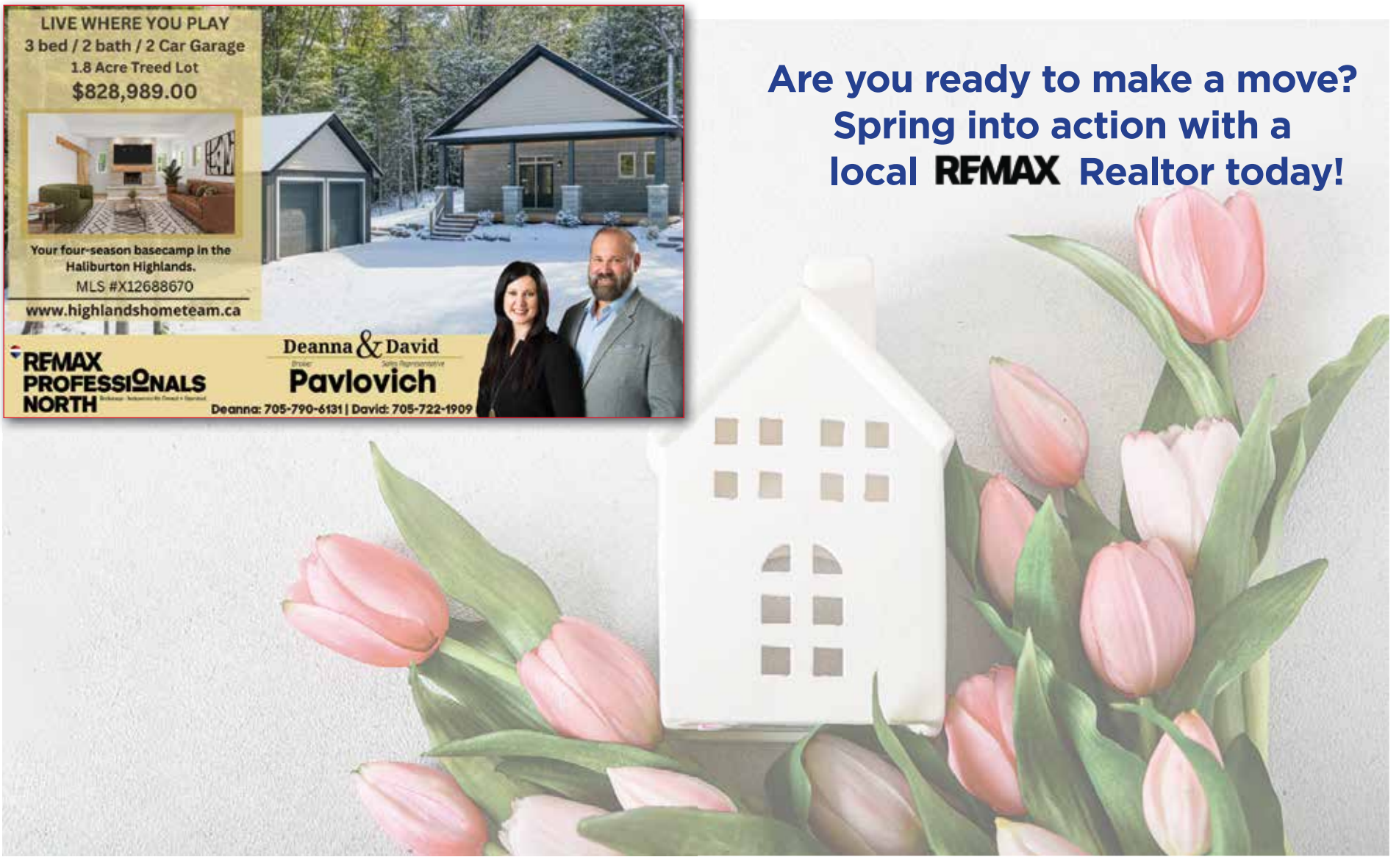
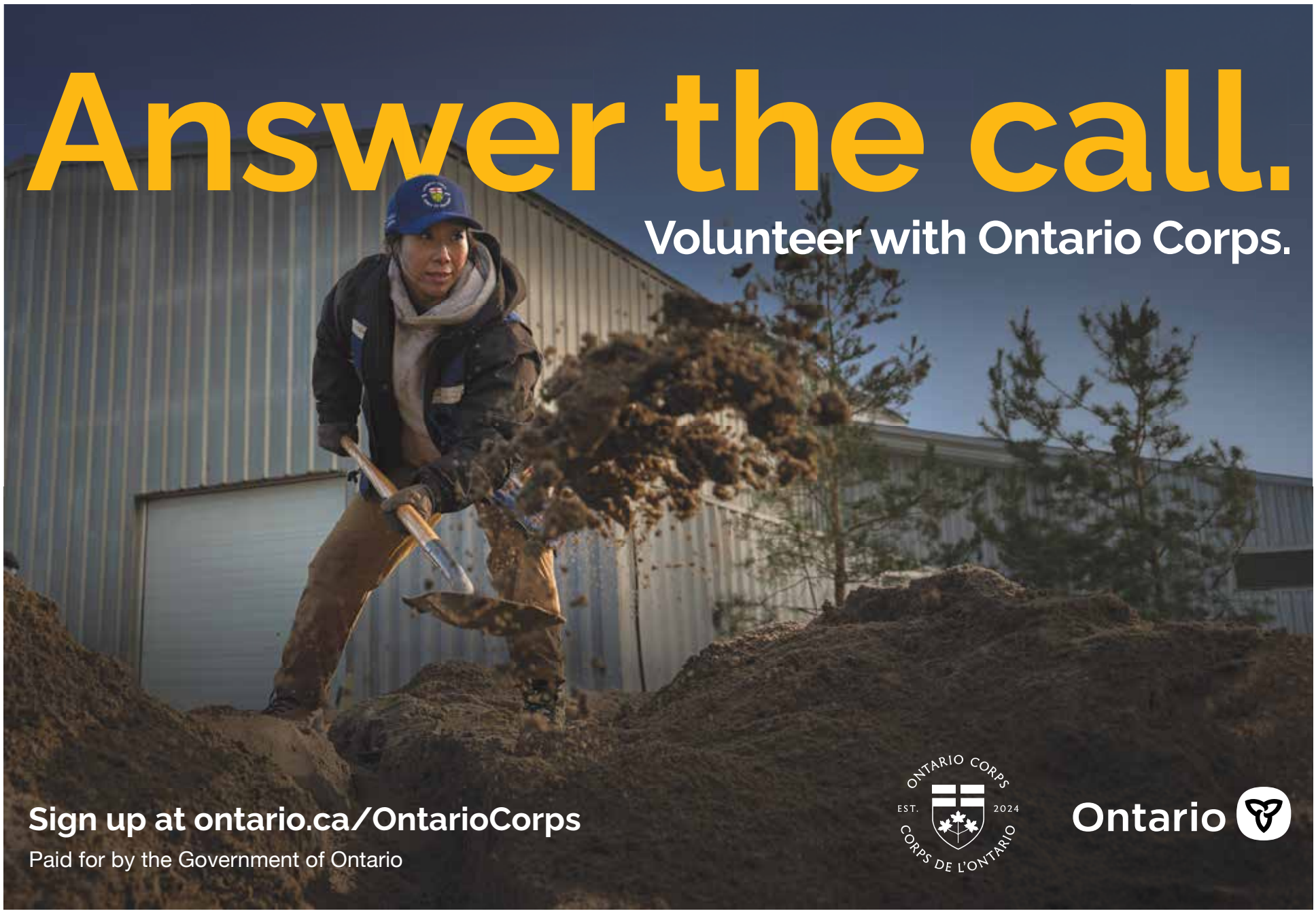


## A hole in one

Haliburton Highlands Secondary School hosted a cornhole tournament earlier in the month in the school gymnasium. Students from all grades dressed up to compete in the event, with prizes and celebrations for the winners. /TIM YANO staff photographer



# Springtime in Paudash

Spring hath graced the land
With a golden hue
Winter's ice and snow hath given way
To gentle dew
Bright flowers unfurl and bees do hum
As I roam about in delirium.

Oh, mighty God
Oh, Mother Earth
Your creation is esteemed above all worth
You are so infinitely wondrous,
Magnificent and wise
But tell me:  Why black flies?

Two billion wings doth beat as one
As a ghastly shadow darkens the sun
The spectre of frogs and locusts
Falling from the skies
Would be a relief
Compared to a billion black flies.

Bubonic plague infected rats
Swarms of hungry, rabid bats
Hornets, slugs, and buzzing gnats
Won't suck your blood until you die
Like the flying piranha known
As, "Black Fly."

Oh, woe to you, foolish mortal
Who would venture through
An open portal
To mow the lawn
Or walk the dog
'Tis better, right now, to be a frog.

~Kathy Figueroa

*"Springtime in Paudash" was first published on May 25, 2006, in The Bancroft Times newspaper.*

SUMMER GUIDE MAGAZINE IS COMING SOON!

**To see your not-for-profit or community event listed at no charge in our Summer Guide Magazine, send an email to**
HaliburtonSummerGuide@gmail.com
**no later than Wednesday May 6**

The ECHO
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# Legion Events

### Branch 441 Kinmount

Monday: Bid Euchre 1 p.m., Card night 7 p.m.
Wednesday: Mixed Darts, 7:30 p.m.
Friday: Bingo- Doors open at 5 p.m., play at 6:45 p.m.
Saturday: Clubroom opens at 3 p.m. Meat draw 5 p.m.
Special events:
2nd Sunday of the month Ladies Auxiliary - 11 a.m.
3rd Thursday of the month 7 p.m. executive meeting and 7:30 p.m. general meeting (members only)
Last Sunday of the month - All you can eat breakfast
Hall rentals available at reasonable prices.
Email: 441RCL@gmail.com Call 705-488-3462 or 705-928-7105. We welcome everyone to our events and we look forward to seeing you!

### Branch 129 Haliburton

**Mondays:** Bridge 1 p.m. Schofield Rm. Youth darts 6:30 to 8 p.m. Clubroom 10 to 18 years of age. All are welcome, no experience necessary
**Tuesdays:** League darts 7 p.m.
**Wednesdays**: Bid Euchre 1 p.m. start – Main Hall. Bingo doors open at 6 p.m. Bingo 7 p.m. FirstWed of each month with jackpot. Follow Facebook.com/Branch129 Bingo for the most up-to-date information
**Thursdays**: General Meeting third Thursday of the month, 6:30 p.m. All members urged to attend.
Ladies Auxiliary last Thursday of the month at 1 p.m.
**Fridays:** Five meat draw, five prizes each draw, first draw 4:30 p.m., last draw 6:30 p.m. Tickets $2 per draw. Paul Sisson, MC. Friday fun darts from 4:30 p.m. and onwards. 50/50 Draw 5:40 p.m.
*Planning a function for 10 or 200, call Cheryl Waller at 905-447-7741, email haliburtonlegionrentals@gmail.com or visit haliburtonlegion.com. Everyone is welcome!* Club room hours: Mon. 3 to 6 p.m., Tues. 3 to 9 p.m., Wed/Thurs. 3 to 6 p.m. Fri. 3 to 7 p.m.

### Branch 636 Minden

**Lunch - Monday to Friday**
**Monday:** Rug Hookers every second week.
Bid Euchre 1 to 3 p.m.
**Tuesday:** Food 5 p.m. Canoe FM Bingo 6 p.m.
**Thursday:** Cribbage 1 to 3 p.m., Darts 7 to 9 p.m. and Euchre 7 to 9 p.m.
**Every other Friday:** Karaoke 8 to 11 p.m.
**Friday** Fish & Chips, Wings. Lunch 11a.m. to 2 p.m. and Dinner 4 to 7 p.m.
**Saturday** All Day Breakfast 9 a.m. to 2 p.m. with three Meat draws at 11 a.m.
Call ahead any day for take-out: 705-286-4541.
Schedules are subject to change without notice. Check our Facebook page Minden Legion Branch 636 for more info.

### Branch 624 Wilberforce

**Hours - Sunday: Special Events Only, Monday: 7 to 10 p.m., Tuesday: Special Events Only, Wednesday: 2 to 10 p.m., Thursday: 2 to 6 p.m., Friday: 2 to 11 p.m., Saturday: 2 to 7 p.m.**
**Monday:** April 27 Darts $5/player 7 p.m.
**Tuesday:** April 28 Veteran's and Seniors Exercise Club 1 p.m.
**Wednesday:** April 22, 29 Darts $5/player 2 p.m.
22, 29 Quick Supper Menu changes weekly $10. 5 to 6:30 p.m.
15, 22, 29 Open Cribbage 6:30 p.m – No need to pre-register
**Thursday:** April 23 HHHS Social Rec 10 a.m.
**Friday:** April 17 Fish and Chips 1pc/$15, 2pc/$20. 5 to 8 p.m.
24 Wings and Jam Session $15/lb. 5 to 8 p.m.
24 Community Care 55+ Lunch $20. Noon
**Saturday:** April 18 Karaoke 8 p.m. to 1 a.m.
25 Nacho Average Trivia Registration is at 6:30 p.m. Game Begins at 7 p.m. Sharp. $5/Player
Call the Legion for more info 705-448-222

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# Minden Tim Hortons reopens with platinum status

**EMILY STONEHOUSE**
*County Life* Editor

After only a few short weeks, the Minden location of Tim Hortons has reopened their doors to the community.

In early March, the management of the Minden site announced that the facility would be closed to the public as they undergo a number of renovations to the space. According to Mike Garland, the owner of the venue, it is a requirement that every ten years, a renovation is completed at each individual site. "And ideally, around here, you don't want to do that over the summer months," he said.

Garland was able to secure a pop-up trailer for the site, to ensure that orders were completed status quo, while the renovations kept the team busy.

On April 7, the team took to Facebook to announce that the building is back up and running. With fresh paint, new furniture, and splashes of colour on the walls featuring Canadian art, the space is warm, friendly, and inviting.

But beyond the grand reopening of the site, Garland shared some extra special news. "Our incredible team has officially earned platinum status for 2025," he said. "This puts us in the top three per cent of all drive-thru Tim Hortons locations across the country, based on lightning-fast speed of service, outstanding audits on standards and food safety, amazing guest feedback, and top-tier training."

Garland was quick to thank the community for the accolade. "None of this would be possible without our passionate team and loyal guests like you," he said. "Thank you for choosing us every day."

Recent renovations in Minden have been completed, and the location has been reopened.

Minden Tim Hortons announced their official recognition of platinum status this past week, making them one of the top Tims destinations in Canada. /photos submitted

The annual Tim Hortons Smile Cookie campaign will be kicking off this week at both the Haliburton and Minden locations, with proceeds going towards Brooksong Retreat and Cancer Support Centre.

## Local Service Directory

**CHAPMAN INSTALLATIONS**
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**Classified Word Ad Special**
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## FOR RENT

**Spacious one bedroom**, one bath lower apartment located in the heart of Minden. The apartment provides a perfect blend of town and country living. Features include front door access, open concept living, in-unit laundry, and outdoor living spaces, internet and preferential parking spots. $1,875 All inclusive plus shared hydro. Please Contact: **647-394-4899**. Photos available upon request.

## COMMERCIAL SPACE FOR RENT

**Fitness Room for rent:** Blue Sky Yoga Studio at Haliburton Chiropractic. Bright & Open in Downtown Haliburton with Private entrance and washroom. **Health Professional/ Therapist treatment room for rent** at Haliburton Chiropractic. Furnished with massage table, desk & chair. Available by the hour, half or full day. Contact: 705-457-3500. info@haliburtonchiropractic.com

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# Community Events

**Send your event listing to classifieds@haliburtonpress.com**

### Come Together: A Fundraising Concert/Dance for Point in Time

When: April 17, 7 p.m., doors open at 6:30 p.m.
Where: Highland Hills United Church, 21 Newcastle St., Minden
Music provided by Adverse Conditions. Tickets are $25 in advance, or $30 at the door. Tickets available on www.eventbrite.ca, at Point in Time in Haliburton, or by calling 705-286-1470. Refreshments by donation at intermission.

### Friends of The Haliburton County Public Library Café

When: Mon., April 27 1 p.m.
Where: Minden Hills Branch of The Haliburton Public Library, 176 Bobcaygeon Rd. Minden
The Friends of the Haliburton County Public Library are excited to host Fay Martin at our spring café. Fay is the author of *Dementia Widow*. Join us for an informative afternoon to learn more about her recent book. Signed copies of Fay's book will be available for $25. Light refreshments will be served. Admission is by donation. Have a question, contact Penni Chalk 705-286-3276.

### "The Bee Project - Native Bees"

When: May 12, 7 p.m.
Where: Minden Community Centre, 55 Parkside
Your garden is buzzing. Join the Minden & District Horticultural Society to learn about "The Bee Project – Native Bees" from guest speaker Cheryl Fraser, followed by the monthly society meeting. New members welcome!

### Minden & District Horticultural Society Annual Plant Sale

When: May 16, 10 a.m. to 1 p.m.
Where: 63 Bobcaygeon Rd., Minden
Rain or Shine!

## Recurring events

### TOPS: Take Off Pounds Sensibly

When: Monday mornings 9:30 to 11 a.m.
Where: Haliburton Legion Branch 129, upper level
Admission: Yearly membership of $59
A non-profit/commercial network of weight-loss support groups, offers programs for healthy living and weight management.

### Bridge for Seniors

When: Mondays at 1 p.m.
Where: Haliburton Legion - Schofield Room
All welcome

### Haliburton Legion Walking Group

When: Mondays at 9 to 10 a.m.
Where: Haliburton Legion - Remembrance Hall
A safe walking environment. Lead by an Occupational therapist.

### Free Balanced Fitness, Active Social Senior Classes

When: Every second and fourth Tuesday of each month at 10 to 11 a.m.
Where: Haliburton Legion - Remembrance Hall
All seniors are welcome. Group led by Registered Recreation Therapist

### Bid Euchre

When: Wednesdays at 1 p.m.
Where: Haliburton Legion - Remembrance Hall
All welcome!

### Duplicate Bridge - Please arrange for a partner.

When: Wednesdays at 12:45 at Park Lane Apartments. Fridays at 12:45 at Haliburton Legion, Schofield Room.

### Cards/Euchre/Cribbage

When: Thursdays at 2:30 p.m.
Where: St. George's Church
617 Mountain Street

### Monthly Community Breakfast

When: Fourth Saturday of Every Month from 9 to 11 a.m.
Where: Fellowship Room, Haliburton United Church, 10 George St. Haliburton
Hosted by North Entrance Masonic Lodge and Haliburton United Church. No fixed cost for attending the breakfast. Donations are warmly welcomed and will be put to meaningful use supporting local initiatives. A portion of the proceeds collected will be donated to the Public School Breakfast Program in Haliburton County, helping to ensure that local students start their day with a nutritious meal.

### Lakeside Church Service

When: Sunday at 9 a.m. and 10:45 a.m.
Where: 9 Park Street, Haliburton.
All welcome here.

### Weekly Meat Rolls

When: Every Saturday, 3 p.m.
Where: Coboconk Legion, Hwy 48 and 35
Join us for our weekly meat draw at the Coboconk Legion. Five spins for $10. The first four rounds are for highest and lowest score with two winners per round. The last round is for a prepare-it-yourself dinner for two. Additional spins for this round are available for $2 each. Call 705-454-8127 or email info@coboconklegion.ca for more information.

### Haliburton County Public Library Book Nook Hours

When: 1st and 3rd Tuesday of the month - 10 a.m. to 2 p.m.
Where: Minden Hills Branch, 176 Bobcaygeon Rd. Minden
Choose from a variety of gently read books: thrillers, mysteries, romance, biographies, children and youth selections, Canadian authors, fiction, science fiction/ fantasy, sports, spiritual and other non-fiction books. Bring a reusable bag. Payment is by cash donation. All money raised supports library enhancements and programmes for all libraries in the county.

### Wilberforce Visitor Information Centre

When: Thursday to Monday 10 a.m. 4 p.m. (Closed Tuesday and Wednesday)
Where: 2786 Essonville Line in Wilberforce, Curling Club
We offer mineral permission to collect forms, directions, geocaching information and GPS rentals, trails, events, and other general area information. Free Wi-Fi available.

### Mineral Collecting

Mineral collecting is a fun outdoor activity. Adults and kids alike will delight in the chance to dig for buried treasure and bring home some colourful gems of your very own! Get a Permission to Collect form (free) from our website highlandseast.ca.

### Geocaching

Geocaching is a family friendly outdoor game. It's often referred to as "treasure hunting with a high tech twist" because you use the geocaching.com website and either a GPS device or a smartphone. GPS Rentals are available from the Visitor Information Centre and come preloaded so you can start playing right away.

### Trails

Whether you like to walk or run, ride a bike, horse or an ATV, one of Highlands East's trails is sure to please. Come joy the fall colours. Maps and descriptions can be found on our website highlandseast.ca.

**INSIDE THIS ISSUE:**

THIS WEEK
**REPLACING VSS:**
Parents launch second battle for new school ... Pg. 8

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*Minden firm travels to Japan to build cottage ... Pg. 17.*

FEATURE
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HHSS students going to provincial Envirothon ... Pg. 22

THE HALIBURTON COUNTY
# ECHO
*The Voice Of The Highlands Since 1882*

TUESDAY, APRIL 22, 1997 Vol. 115, No. 10 • 32 PAGES 90 cents (incl. GST)

# School tax going up:

## *Board says further cuts would damage system*

by PETER DOWNS
Staff Reporter

To avoid damaging an education system they say has already been stretched to the limit by deep funding cuts, Haliburton school trustees have voted to go to taxpayers for more money one last time.

In what will likely be its final budget before being dismantled in the fall, the board decided on Tuesday night to hand property owners a tax hike of about 1.7 per cent.

The $17.4-million budget also cuts $27,000 from capital improvements planned by county schools and adds in about $25,000 to greatly expand the high school's Internet capabilities.

Already facing a provincial funding cut of $272,000, the board's financial troubles were compounded two weeks ago when it learned it would have to refund $149,000 to Haliburton Forest and Wildlife Reserve because of a tax appeal settled by the municipality of Dysart.

However, a surplus of close to $195,000 identified by the board's auditor means trustees didn't have to go to taxpayers with the full brunt of the grant reduction and the tax rebate.

The surplus stems from savings in salaries and benefits the board realized through the Social Contract.

But the moderate tax increase adopted by the board was not big enough for four of its 15 trustees, who voted against the budget.

Trustees Craig Pettit, Bryan Kernohan, Trevor Pawson and Wendy Ladurantaye urged their colleagues to raise taxes even higher to make sure the county's school system is in better shape going into amalgamation next fall.

"I believe we damaged the system last year and I won't approve a budget that doesn't put money back," said Pettit. "... If the government chooses to abandon education, that's its decision. There's nothing saying

See TRUSTEES page 6

**CELEBRATION OF MUSIC**: St. George's Anglican Church in Haliburton hosted the 50-voice Mohawk College Singers Saturday evening. An appreciative audience packed the Legion Hall to listen to traditional and contemporary vocal and organ music. Proceeds from the evening will support church restoration.

# Shooting from the lip

## ■ *Riding's federal candidates take aim on gun control at public debate*

by MARTHA PERKINS
Editor

In the parking lot of the West Guilford Community Centre on Sunday, there were a lot of vehicles with a bumper sticker which read "Remember Bill C68 when you vote."

Inside the hall, the owners of those vehicles were putting the words into action as they asked three candidates in the upcoming federal election exactly where they stood on the Liberal government's new gun control law.

Not unexpectedly, it was the riding's Liberal Member of Parliament who was in for the most heat at Sunday's meeting of the Haliburton Highlands Outdoors Association. John O'Reilly, a gun owner, hunter and critic of the law, was part of a delegation to Washington when the final vote on Bill C68 was tabled. His promise to vote against it wasn't put to the test because he wasn't there for the vote – a fact very much on the minds of many of the 70 hunters and fishermen gathered at the community centre.

The vote in favour of the Bill was 192 to 63, and even if the members of the Washington delegation had been able to vote, O'Reilly said, the vote would have been 197-64. "It was going to be won by those who feel crime control and gun control are the same."

He sees the issue as a struggle between urban and rural Canadians whose opinions, and experience with guns, strongly differs. Even in a poll of his own riding, there were 49.6% in favour of the gun control bill and 49.3% against it. And while as a gun owner himself, O'Reilly has said the law targets innocent citizens, he said that as a representative of a political party, it's not always "recommended" to go against that party.

"Politics is a team sport and scoring a goal on your own net is not the way to get your point across," he said. "It's not the coach you have to worry about, it's the other players on the bench."

O'Reilly said when the whip of the Reform Party voted with the

See FEDERAL page 4

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**PRESERVING THEIR INHERITANCE:** During the Loop Troupe's performance of "Strawberry Jam" Sunday in Wilberforce, Hilda Clark, left, and Elsie Lewis prepare to stow the body of their deceased father in the deep freeze for several months to avoid paying a penalty on their inheritance. It sounds more grim than it actually was -- the audience thought it was hilarious. For more on the troupe's plays, see Page 19.

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*A team that*
# KNOWS HOME

Finding your happy place starts with knowing where to look. Browse our latest properties and work with a team that understands the Haliburton market inside and out.

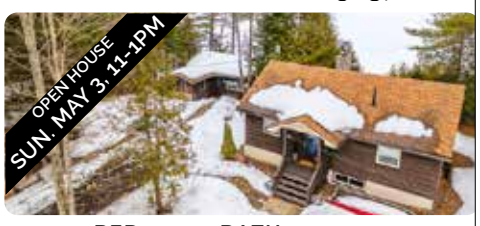
## HAAS LAKE, GLAMORGAN RD
## $1,649,000

BED 1+3 | BATH 3 | MLS #X13007692

## HIGHWAY 35, MINDEN $999,900

BED 3 | BATH 2 | MLS #X12953212

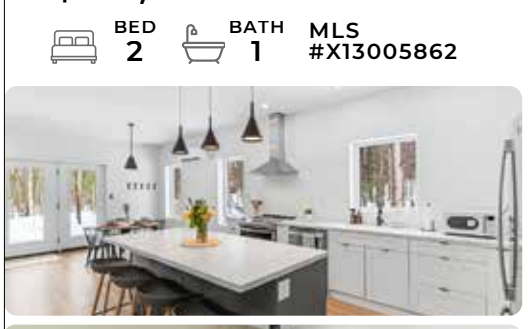
## GOODERHAM LAKE $925,000




BED 3+2 | BATH 1+1 | MLS #X12954018

## BASSHAUNT LAKE RD
## $529,900

BED 2 | BATH 1 | MLS #X13005862



## KUSHOG LAKE, HWY 35 $499,900

BED 4 | BATH 2 | MLS #X12604142

## LITTLE BOSHKUNG LAKE

BED 4 | BATH 2 | MLS #X12694894

## EVERY SALE HAS A STORY

Baumgartner Realty Group demonstrated remarkable efficiency throughout the sale of my property. Linda maintained open lines of communication, regularly updating me on every step of the process. Her approach ensured that I always felt informed and engaged, making the entire experience smooth and reassuring.

-C. Nilsson, Google Review

A big thank you goes to Linda Baumgartner and her team for their expert advice and service. Linda was a pleasure to work with and was professional and knowledgeable in handling the sale of our cottage. We can fully endorse Linda Baumgartner and her team for their integrity, honesty and commitment to our sale.

-S. Webb, Google Review

RE/MAX® PROFESSIONALS NORTH BAUMGARTNER REALTY
Brokerage – independently owned and operated

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*Not intended to solicit buyers or sellers currently under contract.*

**Linda Baumgartner**
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